Atty. Docket No. DE920000090US1
(590.160)

<u>**Amendments to the Claims**</u>:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

<u>**Listing of Claims**</u>:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for operating a network coupling adapter attaching one or more computing device via an associated interconnected memory to either one of an I/O periphery, a network, or other computing devices, characterized by the steps of: operating a local memory being associated with the network coupling adapter as a cache memory ~~relative to a system memory of the one or more computing~~ ~~device~~ for storing transmission control information <u>associated with information stored in</u> <u>a system memory of the one or more computing device</u>, such that transmission control information is cached in the local memory and information other than transmission control information is stored in the system memory.

2. **(Original)** The method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of using an InfiniBand Architecture.

3. **(Original)** The method according to the claim 1 further comprising the steps of using said transmission control for the processing of queues or queue pairs.

4. **(Original)** The method according to claim 2 further comprising the steps of using said transmission control for the processing of completion queues.

5. **(Original)** The method according to claim 2 further comprising the steps of using said transmission control for the processing of address translation and protection tables.

6. **(Original)** The method according to claim 2 further comprising the steps of using said local memory for connecting at least one computer device to a network.

7. **(Original)** The method according to claim 2 further comprising the steps of using said transmission control information for bundled per queue or queue pair.

8. **(Original)** The method according to claim 2 further comprising the steps of configuring said cache memory not to discard transmission control information for particular queues after casting-out.

9. **(Original)** The method according to claim 2 further comprising the step of writing said transmission control information to the local memory only before signaling the completion of a InfiniBand verb.

10. **(Original)** The method according to claim 2 further comprising the steps of using said previous step for connecting a plurality of I/O hardware devices associated with a computing device.

11. **(Original)** The method according to claim 2 further comprising the steps of using said previous step for providing communication channels for interprocess communication between a plurality of processes associated with one or more computing devices.

- 3 -

12. **(Currently Amended)** A network coupling element coupling one or more computing devices via an associated interconnected memory to either one of an I/O periphery, a network, or other computing devices characterized by <u>hardware and</u> comprising a local memory being operable as a cache memory ~~relative to said interconnected memory of the computing device~~, such that transmission control information <u>associated with information stored in said interconnected memory of the computing device</u> is cached in the local memory and information other than transmission control information is stored in the ~~system~~ <u>interconnected</u> memory.

13. **(Currently Amended)** The network coupling element for coupling one or more computing devices via an associated interconnected memory to an I/O periphery, and operates either as a Host Channel Adapter or a Target Channel Adapter being operable according the InfiniBand Architecture is characterized by <u>hardware and</u> comprising a local memory being operable as a cache memory ~~relative to said interconnected memory of the one or more computing devices~~, such that transmission control information <u>associated with said interconnected memory of the one or more computing devices</u> is cached in the local memory and information other than transmission control information is stored in the ~~system~~ <u>interconnected</u> memory.

14. **(Cancelled)**

- 4 -